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JUL 24 2003

DIRECTOR OFFICE
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In re Application of :
Naoyasu Miyagawa, et al. :
Application No. 09/420,603 :
Filed: October 19, 1999 :
For: OPTICAL RECORDING/REPRODUCING :
APPARATUS FOR OPTICAL DISKS WITH :
VARIOUS DISK SUBSTRATE THICKNESSES :

DECISION ON PETITION
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME
UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(b)

This is a decision on the petition filed July 21, 2003, under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(b) requesting an extension of time to file a reply to the Examiner's Answer and to file a request for Oral Hearing. The request is for a one month extension of time.

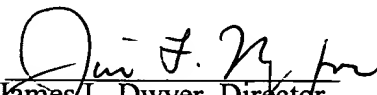
The provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(b) state:

When a response with petition and fee for extension of time cannot be filed pursuant to paragraph (a) of this section, the time for response will be extended only for sufficient cause and for a reasonable time specified. Any request for such extension must be filed on or before the day on which action by the applicant is due, but in no case will the mere filing of the request effect any extension. In no case can any extension carry the date on which response to an Office action is due beyond the maximum time period set by statute or be granted when the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section are available. See § 1.304 for extension of time to appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit or to commence a civil action, § 1.550(c) for extension of time in reexamination proceedings.

The request for a one month extension of time complies with the above noted requirements. The request is for sufficient cause and for a reasonable time specified. Accordingly, the request is granted and the reply brief and/or request for Oral Hearing is due on or before August 23, 2003.

SUMMARY: EXTENSION OF TIME **GRANTED.**

After the mailing of this decision, the application will be returned to the TC 2600 central files area to await a response.


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